ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1967

ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1967 in accordance with Article 15(4) and (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 and Circular 1/68 of the Ministry of Health. This is the last Annual Report I shall submit as I retire on the 6th June, 1968.

The year 1967 showed a small increase in the estimated mid-year population of the Rural District, but there were fewer live births compared with the previous year. The number of occupied dwellings increased. The amount of acute notifiable disease diminished.

Having served the Council for over thirty years, perhaps it would not be inappropriate if I mention some of the progress I have seen achieved by the Council during this period. Remarkable progress has been made in the provision of housing for the population, all types of dwellings have been erected by the Council, including two excellent schemes for aged persons. Very great progress was made in the provision of a comprehensive piped water scheme embracing almost every part of the District; this has now been absorbed by the Herefordshire Water Board. An efficient system of collection of domestic refuse was set up and the Council then embarked upon the provision of sewerage schemes for suitable parts of the District.

The Report gives a summary of the work carried out during 1967 and contains no special comment.

In the preparation of this Report, I acknowledge assistance from Mr. H.B. Reynolds, Clerk to the Council; Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Chief Public Health Inspector; Mr. E.O. Christopher, Rating Officer. I also have to thank Mr. W.H. Austin, Engineer and Manager of the Herefordshire Water Board for information respecting the water supply of the District.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the support which the Chairman and Members of the Council have given me during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

William Hogg

Medical Officer of Health

31st May, 1968

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND PARISHES REPRESENTED

1 9 6 7

Chairman	-	Mr. B.C. Hackett
Vice-Chairman	-	Mr. L. Drayson Russill

Mrs. M.M. Gardner	-	Aston Ingham
Mr. L. Drayson Russill	-	Ballingham
Mr. J.H. Scudamore, J.P.	-	Brampton Abbotts
Mr. B.C. Hackett, J.P.	-	Bridstow
Mr. G.L. Clay, J.P.	-	Brockhampton
Brigadier A.F.L. Clive, J.P.	-	Foy
Brigadier R.P. Waller	-	Ganarew
Mr. G.E. Long	-	Garway
Mr. J.L. Trafford	-	Goodrich
Mr. W.G. Williams	-	Harewood and Llandinabo
Mr. A.G. Baker	-	Hentland
Mrs. E.M. Saunders	-	Hope Mansel
Mr. R.M. Lee	-	How Caple and Sollershope
Mr. R.J. Jenkins	-	Kings Caple
Mr. B.H. Savidge	-	Lea
Mr. C.F. Huntley	-	Linton
Mr. J.B. Sainsbury	-	Linton
Mr. F.C. Maxfield	-	Llangarron
Mr. F.G. Scudamore	-	Llangarron
Lt. Cdr. G. Glenton	-	Llanrothal
Mrs. P.N. Birchley	-	Llanwarne
Mr. A.G.R. Cross	-	Marstow
Mr. A.P. Miller	-	Pencoyd
Mr. A. Cole	-	Peterstow
Mr. H.T. Allen	-	Ross Rural
Mr. H.H. Williams	-	Ross Rural
Mr. G. Cotterill	-	St. Weonards
Mr. E.P.C. Whittall	-	Sellack
Mr. G.L. Ward	-	Tretire with Michaelchurch
Mr. R.H. Marsh	-	Upton Bishop
Mr. W.S. Young	-	Upton Bishop
Mr. W. Chinn	-	Walford
Mrs. D.G. Tarry	-	Walford
Major J.H. Vaughan	-	Welsh Bicknor
Mr. E.J. Cotton	-	Welsh Newton
Mr. D.A. Harper	-	Weston-under-Penyard
Mrs. N. Jones	-	Weston-under-Penyard
Mr. R.F. Lincoln	-	Whitchurch
Mrs. E. Redman	-	Whitchurch
Mr. R.F. Cotton	-	Yatton

ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Miss A.O. Gale

Telephone: Ross-on-Wye. 2214

Chepstow House, Ross-on-Wye.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING DESIGNATED OFFICER

Mr. C.W.J. Manley, M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P&Hy., M.A.P.H.I.
Qualified Public Health Inspector (Joint Board)
" Food Inspector (Royal Sanitary Institute)
" Smoke Inspector (Royal Sanitary Institute)

SAMPLING OFFICER AND CLERK TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT

Mr. O.J. Scruby

Telephone: Ross-on-Wye 2391

Woodside, Ross-on-Wye.

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SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	=	72,362.
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.67)	=	4,004
Rateable Value	=	£257,668
Sum represented by a penny rate	=	£975. 2. 10d.
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population	=	11,790
Area comparability factor (births)	=	1.18
Area comparability factor (deaths)	=	0.92

Vital Statistics

Live Births

Number of Live Births	=	163
Live birth rate per 1000 estimated population (crude)	=	13.8
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	=	9.2%

Still Births

Number of stillbirths	=	4
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	=	24.0
Total live and still births	=	167
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	=	1

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant deaths per 1000 total live births	=	6.1
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	=	6.8
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	=	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 live births)	=	6.1
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 live births)	=	6.1
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	=	30.0

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of maternal deaths	=	Nil

The Ross and Whitchurch Rural District Council lies in the south of the County of Hereford, surrounding the Urban District of Ross-on-Wye. The area is entirely rural in character, and the scenery of the Wye Valley attracts visitors.

Limestone quarries are worked at Whitchurch. All types of farming are found within the Rural District.

Population

The estimated mid-year population was 11,790, an increase of 70 on the estimate for 1966. The average number of persons per inhabited house was 2.94 and the average number of persons per acre 0.16. The natural increase of population (excess of live births over deaths) was 31.

Births

The number of live births registered as having occurred within the Rural District during the year was 163 (78 male and 85 female) and the crude live birth rate was 13.8 per 1000 of the estimated population. The area comparability factor was 1.18 and applying this to the crude birth rate, the adjusted live birth rate was 16.3 per 1000 estimated population. The live birth rate for England and Wales for the year was 17.2 per 1000 population. The ratio of male/female live births was 0.91. In 1966 there were 179 live births in the Rural District.

The number of illegitimate live births which occurred was 15 (7 male and 8 female). The illegitimate live births formed 9.2% of the total live births.

Stillbirths

Four stillbirths occurred, one more than in the previous year. The stillbirth rate is 24 per 1000 total births.

The stillbirth rate for England and Wales for 1967 is 14.7 per 1000 total (live and still) births.

Deaths

The number of deaths recorded as having occurred in the Rural District during the year was 132 (73 males and 59 females). In 1966 there were 130 deaths attributed to the Rural District. This total is obtained after deducting the number of deaths of non-residents which occurred within the Rural District and adding the number of deaths of residents which took place in other areas. The ratio of male/female deaths was 1.2.

The crude death rate for the District for the year was 11.2 1000 estimated population, and applying the area comparability factor of 0.92 the corrected death rate was 10.3 per 1000 estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales for 1967 was 11.2 per 1000 population.

List No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Persons
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	1	1	2
11.	" " lung, bronchus.	3	2	5
12.	" " breast.	-	3	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic Neoplasms.	9	8	17
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	1	1	2
16.	Diabetes.	2	-	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	9	11	20
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	23	11	34
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	-	4	4
20.	Other heart disease.	7	7	14
21.	Other circulatory disease.	-	1	1
23.	Pneumonia.	1	2	3
24.	Bronchitis.	2	1	3
25.	Other diseases of respiratory System.	2	1	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	1	-	1
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	9	4	13
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	1	1	2
34.	All other accidents.	2	1	3
	All Causes	73	59	132

Analysis of death by cause shows the most frequent cause was heart disease (headings 18, 19 and 20), accounting for 52 deaths. The corrected death rate from all forms of heart disease was 4.0 per 1000 estimated population. In the previous year heart disease accounted for 55 deaths.

Vascular Lesions of Nervous System

Deaths from strokes amounted to 20, two more than in the previous year.

Cancer Deaths

In 1967 there were 27 deaths attributed to all types of cancer (13 male and 14 female), one morethan in the previous year. The corrected death rate for cancer of all sites was 2.1 per 1000 estimated population.

The cancer (all forms) death rate for England and Wales for 1967 was 2.3 per 1000 population.

Infant Mortality

One baby under one year of age died during the year, three less than in the previous year. The local infnat mortality rate for 1967 was 6.1 per 1000 live births and this rate for England and Wales is 19.0 per 1000 live births. The infant death occurred within the first week of life.

Deaths from Acute Notifiable Infectious Disease

Three deaths were attributed to pneumonia - the only acute notifiable disease which caused death. The corrected death rate for the Rural District for 1967 from acute pneumonia was 0.23 per 1000 estimated population. In the previous year 4 deaths were attributed to pneumonia.

Tuberculosis Deaths

No deaths were attributed to tuberculosis. The tuberculosis (all forms) death rate for England and Wales was 0.042 per 1000 population for 1967.

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Laboratory

The faci lities available to the District at the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, remain unchanged.

The following is the list of investigations made on behalf of the Department during the year:-

Faeces	=	8
Water (bacteriological)	=	486
Milk (methylene blue test and phosphatase test)	=	83
Ice Cream	=	84

Thirtythree samples of sewage effluent were submitted to the Worcestershire County Analyst for chemical examination.

Public Mortuary

The Council has facilities for the reception of bodies from the Rural District at the Public Mortuary, Ross-on-Wye.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals situated within the Rural District, which is served by hospitals at Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Monmouth.

Ambulances

Ambulances are provided in the adjacent towns of Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Monmouth, for the use of persons residing within the Rural District.

Disposal of the Dead - National Assistance Act 1948 Section 50

No burials were carried out under this section by the Council during the year.

Care of the Aged and Infirm - National Assistance Act, 1948 Section 47

No investigations were made under this section during the year.

Residential Accommodation for the Aged

Residential accommodation for active aged persons is provided at the Chestnuts, Ross-on-Wye. This Home is provided and managed by the Herefordshire County Council, and can accommodate 42 persons.

The Rural District Council has provided at Fowbridge Gardens, Walford, an estate of 17 bungalows for aged persons, with a Warden's flat, and a similar estate at Weston-under-Penyard with 27 bungalows.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Geology

The District is formed of Old Red Sandstone Rocks of the Devonian System, with an outcrop of limestone along the south-eastern boundary from Upton Bishop to Gorsley and Aston Ingham. In the parishes of Walford and Whitchurch, along the southern boundary of the District there is an outcrop of carboniferous limestone.

The Old Red Sandstone is represented chiefly by red and green sandstones and marl with outcrops of Old Red Conglomerate.

Water

All public water supplies in the Rural District, with the exception of a few public wells and springs, are provided by the Herefordshire Water Board. The Board obtains water for the supplies chiefly from the Castlebrook and Alton Court Pumping Stations (bore holes in Old Red Sandstone), and the St. Weonards and Llanwarne Scheme (springs).

The following extensions of public water mains in the Rural District were completed during the year:-

Weston-under-Penyard	109 yards
4th Avenue, Greytree	105 yards
Broadoak	590 yards
Site at Llangrach Farm, Marstow	33 yards
Site at Ivy House, Gorsley	286 yards
Old House, Brampton.	126 yards
5th Avenue, Greytree	111 yards
Llancloudy	200 yards
Old Post Office, Tretire	148 yards
Post Office, Walford.	61 yards
Morgan Farm, Kilcot.	264 yards
The Cottage, Hoarwithy	240 yards
Sellack Boat, Kings Caple	874 yards

All the mains extensions are of 3 inch diameter pipe.

During the year 424 samples of water from the Board's supply were sent for bacteriological examination. Of these 412 were found to be sterile on examination, and 12 showed insignificant counts. From other sources 62 samples were taken.

A shortage of water was experienced in the White Rocks area of Garway parish and in the Lea Bailey area in Lea parish during part of the year.

There are 7 standpipes on the public water mains still in use. One standpipe was provided near May Cottages, Dancing Green for the use of occupiers of properties transferred from Gloucestershire to Herefordshire, pending a corresponding statutory increase in the Board's limits of supply. Applicants are provided, on payment, with a key to the locked standpipe box and eight occupiers have taken advantage of this facility.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are short lengths of public sewer within the parishes of Lea, Walford, Upton Bishop, Goodrich, Bridstow and Ross Rural. No extensions of public sewers were carried out during the year.

Four samples of effluent from the Hildersley Sewage Disposal plant were sent for chemical analysis; all of these failed to comply with the Royal Commission standards. A scheme to drain this area into the Ross U.D.C. sewers is in preparation.

Twentyfour samples of sewage effluent were sent for chemical examination as part of a survey of drainage systems from Council's Housing Estates; results showed that none of the disposal plants were satisfactory as all the effluents failed to attain the Royal Commission standards except two at Knightshill and two at Greengates.

During the year the Public Health Inspector made 15 drain tests. Ninetysix new drains were provided in connection with dwelling houses and 6 for other premises. Ten existing drains, found to be defective were reconstructed or repaired. The number of inspections made in connection with drainage was 39.

The Council does not undertake the emptying or cleansing of cesspools and septic tanks other than those on the Council's property, which are cleansed by specialist contractors.

Rivers and Streams

The principal rivers and streams of the District are the River Wye and its tributaries, the Garron, Rudhall Brook and Castle Brook.

The quality of the effluents from a number of small sewage disposal plants discharging into the River Wye continued to receive the attention of the Council. The provision of public sewerage systems is necessary in a number of areas.

Closet Accommodation

It is estimated that about 33% of the inhabitants are still obliged to rely upon pail closets and about 59% have the use of water closets. The remaining 7% have to use privies.

During the year 30 pail closets and 41 privies were converted to water closets. Apart from conversions 45 new water closets were provided during the year.

The Council does not undertake the emptying and cleansing of privies and pail closets.

No public conveniences are provided by the Council but the need for these exists in the Symonds Yat area. This area has a large influx of day visitors during the holiday season.

Public Cleansing

The Council carried out the collection of domestic refuse from all accessible properties throughout the year. About 90% of dwellings are included in the collection, which is carried out by two motor refuse vehicles with covers and tipping gear. A fortnightly roadside collection is provided, but during the summer hotels and boarding houses have a weekly collection.

The Council does not undertake the collection of trade refuse except in special circumstances on request at an agreed charge.

Disposal of the refuse is by tipping - the tips being situated at Whitchurch, Garway, How Caple, Weston-under-Penyard and Gorsley.

The Council, by arrangement with the Highway Authority, carries out the cleansing of lay-bys on the Ross by-pass.

There are no public baths or washhouses in the Rural District.

Swimming Baths and Pools

From April to September one privately owned swimming pool was open to the public on payment. It is provided with a purification plant, and was maintained in a satisfactory condition. The pump circulates 7,000 gallons per hour and is pumping from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. alternating with 24 hour pumping. Five thousand gallons of pool water are extracted each day and replaced by fresh water.

On 15 occasions samples of pool water were submitted for bacteriological examination, and all samples were satisfactory.

Camping Sites - Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269(1)
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Section 3

There were 28 sites used for camping purposes in the Rural District during the year and of these 10 were licensed under Section 3 Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. It is estimated that the maximum number of campers resident in the area at any one time was 400.

The number of inspections of camping sites carried out during the year was 40, and 65 caravan inspections were made. When sites are inspected attention is given to water supply, sanitary accommodation, refuse disposal and spacing.

Eradication of Bed Bugs
Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations (Fumigation of Buildings) Regs. 1951

No dwellings were found to be infested with bed bugs, and no disinfestations were required for this purpose. When need for disinfestations arises this is usually carried out by specialist contractors using hydrogen cyanide.

No notices under the Regulations were received in respect of disinfestations with hydrogen cyanide.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses within the District.

Diseases of Animals Acts - Anthrax Order 1938

No notifications of suspected anthrax in animals were received during the year.

Three notifications of Salmonella infection in cattle were received.

Shops and Offices and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The number of shops and offices within the District is very small. The number of visits made during the year to shops was 40.

Registrations

Class of Premises	No. registered at end of year	No. inspected during year
Offices	4	1
Retail Shops	11	5
Wholesale shops) Warehouses)	Nil	Nil
Catering Establishments) open to the public) Canteens)	10	2
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil	Nil

Persons employed in Registered Premises

Class of Premises	Number employed
Offices	17
Retail Shops	23
Wholesale Shops) Warehouses)	Nil
Catering establishments open to the public	50
Canteens	Nil
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil

The number of visits made to registered premises during the year was 88.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

I am indebted to Mr. C.W.J. Manley, Chief Public Health Inspector for the following statement for the year 1967, furnished in accordance with Article 25(2) Public Health Officers's Regulations, 1959:-

Inspections

Accumulations	=	3
Agriculture (S.H. & W. Prov.) Act.	=	12
Bakehouses	=	3
Camping Sites	=	42
Caravans	=	65
Control of Pests	=	4
Dairies	=	20
Drainage	=	39
Drain Tests	=	15
Factories (with mechanical power)	=	128
Food Poisoning	=	2
Food Handling Byelaws	=	21
Food Premises	=	71
Houses (Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932)	=	71
Housing (Other)	=	64

Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens	=	24
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	=	51
Infectious Disease	=	16
Licensed Victuallers's Premises	=	25
Nuisances	=	15
Offensive Smells	=	19
Overcrowding	=	9
Petroleum Stores	=	55
Refuse Tips	=	95
Schools	=	3
Sewage Disposal Works	=	49
Sewers	=	2
Shops	=	40
Stalls	=	11
Swimming Baths and Pools	=	13
Unsound Food	=	4
Water Supply	=	616
Water Courses	=	5
Work Places	=	2
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	=	88

Notices Issued

Informal	=	13
Statutory re Housing	=	2
Statutory under other Acts	=	Nil

Summary of Defects Remedied

Accumulations removed	=	30
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed	=	166
Dairies improved	=	1
Ditches cleared	=	6
Domestic Baths provided	=	73
Drains and Gullies cleared	=	12
Drains repaired	=	8
Drains reconstructed	=	5
New drains provided	=	96
Defective floors repaired	=	25
Defective roofs repaired	=	47
Defective eaves gutters repaired	=	21
Defective brickwork repaired	=	18
Defective Coppers repaired	=	2
Defective windows repaired	=	22
Defective chimneys repaired	=	2
Dampness of floors and walls remedied	=	48
Cisterns cleansed or repaired	=	10
Dairies reconstructed	=	2
Gully Covers provided	=	1
Inspection chambers repaired	=	4
Paving repaired	=	10
Privies converted to water closets	=	21
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired	=	24
Staircases repaired	=	10
New sinks provided	=	6
Sanitary fittings provided	=	4
Moveable dwellings removed	=	41
Ventilation improved	=	16
Wells cleansed or repaired	=	10
Miscellaneous defects remedied	=	64

Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

Four premises in the Rural District are licensed for the boarding of animals. One inspection of these was made during the year.

Agriculture, Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions Act, 1956
Sections 3 and 6

The number of inspections made during 1967 under Section 3 of this Act, of farms and agricultural holdings within the District was four, covering four premises. All of these premises complied with the Act.

Factories Act, 1961

The number of factories registered with the Council at the end of the year was 40; all were factories with mechanical power. Five new registrations of factories with mechanical power were made during 1967 and two such registrations were deleted. In addition, 52 workplaces were registered and 64 removed from the register.

One defect under the Act was found and remedied during the year.

There are no outworkers registered with the Council.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1967 for the Rural District of Ross and Whitchurch in the County of Hereford.

Part I of Act

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Presmises	Number on Register	Inspect-ions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .	40	55	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers's premises)	52	73	1	Nil
Total	92	128	1	Nil

2. Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

Petroleum Regulations

Two new licences were granted for the storage of petroleum spirit. One installation for storage was discontinued during the year. At the end of the year there were 83 storage installations on the Council's register.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

This Act is administered on behalf of the constituent Councils by a Joint Committee formed by four adjoining Rural Districts of Hereford, Bromyard, Ledbury and Ross and Whitchurch. The Joint Committee enters into contracts with occupiers for keeping premises free from rodents - the number of such contracts in the Rural District being 84.

The following table shows the work carried out in the Ross and Whitchurch Rural District during 1967. The number of inspections made was 276. Owing to foot and mouth disease precautions the number of treatments carried out was restricted towards the end of the year.

	Premises inspected	Total Infestations	Rats		Mice	No. of properties treated	Statutory Notices
			Major	Minor			
Local Authorities' Properties	9	37	7	30	-	37	-
Dwelling Houses	80	77	-	69	8	77	-
Agricultural Properties	39	39	2	37	-	588	-
All other (including business) premises	13	11	1	10	-	24	-
Total	141	164	10	146	8	726	-

SECTION D - HOUSING

During 1967 eight Council dwellings were completed and eight were under construction at Weston-under-Penyard.

No Council houses were sold during 1967. The number of dwellings owned by the Council at December, 1967 was 387 (9.6% of the occupied houses in the District).

The number of new dwellings completed during the year by private enterprise was 35, distributed in the following parishes:-

Aston Ingham	=	4	Ross Rural	=	4
Bridstow	=	4	Walford	=	2
Brampton Abbotts	=	1	Welsh Newton	=	1
Hentland	=	2	Weston-under-Penyard	=	4
How Caple	=	2	Whitchurch	=	2
Kings Caple	=	1	Llangarron	=	2
Linton	=	6			

A further 66 houses being erected by private enterprise were incomplete at the end of the year.

Housing Act, 1957. Part IV - Overcrowding

At the beginning of the year 2 dwellings were known to be overcrowded within the meaning of the Act. During 1967, no new cases of overcrowding occurred, and it was possible to secure abatement of one case involving 11 persons. One dwelling was overcrowded at the end of the year. In no instance did a recurrence of overcrowding take place after action for abatement.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1.	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	=	44
2.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	=	16
3.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	=	23

Houses Demolished during the Year (Not in Clearance Areas)

Houses demolished (under Section 16 or 17(1) Housing Act, 1957)	=	3

Unfit Houses closed during the Year Housing Act 1957

Unfit Houses closed under Section 16(4), 26, 17(1), 35(1) Housing Act 1957 and Section 26 Housing Act, 1961	=	5

Unfit Houses made Fit, and Houses in which Defects were Remedied

		By Owner	By Local Authority
After informal action by Local Authority	=	126	-
After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	=	1	-

Proceedings under Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 (Part 2) Section 30

Grants made by the Local Authority for improvement of dwellings	=	17

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 (Part 2) Section 4

This section provides assistance in the provision of standard amenities in dwellings - that is a fixed bath or shower, a washbasin, a hot water supply, a water closet, and facilities for storing food. Thirtyfive standard grants were made by the Council during the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958. Part 2. Section 43
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. Section 3

The Council made 8 advances during 1967 to assist persons in house purchase, under these Acts.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

The Rural District is a specified area and only designated milk, that is tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised milk, may be sold retail within the District.

The number of milk distributors registered with the Council at the end of the year was 9. The number of dairy inspections made was 20.

Eightythree samples of pasteurised milk were sent for examination and fifteen of these failed to comply with the Regulations, two with respect to the phosphatase test and 13 failed the methylene blue test. Two producers accounted for these failures.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16

There are two bakeries, two premises for manufacture of meat products and one factory for the manufacture of soft drinks, registered with the Council under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

No formal action was necessary as a result of inspection of these premises. The number of inspections made of register premises was 6.

Water Cress

This food grows under natural conditions in a number of places in the District. There are no commercial beds within the area. No illness was attributed to the consumption of infected water cress.

Shell Fish

The sale of shell fish appears to be small, and no case of illness was attributed to this food. There are no fishmongers in the Rural District and supplies are obtained from adjacent towns.

Ice Cream

There are no premises registered with the Local Authority for the manufacture of ice cream. Fiftyone premises were registered for the storage and sale of this food.

The number of inspections made of registered premises was 51. Conditions of storage and sale were satisfactory.

The number of samples of this food submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, for bacteriological examination during the year was 88, and 85 of these were classified as provisional grade 1 and 3 samples were classified as provisional grade 2.

Meat

There are no slaughterhouses in use within the area. All meat is obtained by traders from abattoirs in other Districts.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. Section 3

During the year the Council issued 6 licences to slaughtermen under the above mentioned section. Three licences permitted the the holder to slaughter cattle, swine and sheep and 3 licences the slaughter of swine only.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

It was not possible to inspect all food premises during the year but 71 such inspections were made. The standard of cleanliness was satisfactory. One defect - the absence of a washhand basin in a hotel kitchen - was found and in a few cases absence of nail brushes were discovered.

Two licensed premises were reconditioned and other such premises are being improved where necessary.

Byelaws as to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air
The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966
The Food Hygiene (Market, Stalls and Delivery Vehicle) (Amendment) Regulations, 1966

There are no markets in the Rural District, stalls are used in the summer months in Whitchurch. Delivery vehicles operate throughout the year in the Rural District. The inspection of mobile shops is difficult owing to their mobility, and most of these operate from other districts, but generally speaking the standard of cleanliness is good. In one instance a mobile meat shop was found in a dirty condition and contravened the Regulations in a number of respects. The number of inspections made during the year was 16.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 26 - Food Poisoning

No notifications of food poisoning were received during the year, but two Salmonella infections came to the notice of the department. The first occurred during August and was S. Panama infection and the second S. Typhimurium infection possibly caused by handling material contaminated by rodents. The origin of the first case was not ascertained.

Unsound Food

The following list gives particulars of food found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered:-

Quantity	Food	Cause of unsoundness
6 tins (66 lbs.)	Cooked Pork	Decomposition
145 packets	Pre-heated Ice Cream	Refrigeration failure
89 packets	Miscellaneous Frozen Food.	" "

Food found to be unfit for human consumption is rendered unsaleable and buried on the refuse tips under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of acute notifiable disease during 1967 was low, about half that of the previous year; 67 notifications were received compared with 126 in 1966. The notification rate was 5.7 per 1000 estimated population, the reduced rate being caused by the lower incidence of measles. The first quarter of the year was the period of maximum incidence, thereafter the number of notifications fell progressively.

Confirmed Cases of Acute Infectious Disease in each Quarter In 1967

Disease	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough	7	3	-	-	10
Measles	39	11	4	-	54
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	1	2
All Diseases	48	14	4	1	67

Measles

This disease showed an increased prevalence during the final quarter of 1966 which persisted into the first quarter of 1967. The total number of notification received was 54, all except 4 arising in the first half of the year. The notification rate was 4.6 per 1000 estimated population. The patients were children under 15 years of age, and there were 38 households involved, of which 36 accounted for 46 notifications. The disease was not confined to any rticular area of the Rural District.

Analysis of notified Cases according to certain Age Groups

Disease	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65+	Total
Measles	4	11	2	12	2	13	3	1	-	-	-	54
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	-	1	1	1	1	4	[illegible]	-	1	-	-	10
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
All Diseases	4	12	3	13	3	25	4	1	2	-	-	67

Whooping Cough

Only 10 notifications of whooping cough were received, all confined to the first half of the year.

Eight households were involved an there did not appear to be any history of contact with a previous case except in one instance. There was no localisation of the disease to any one parish. The number of males and females affected was identical.

There were 14 notifications in 1966 of whooping cough.

Other Notifiable Disease

No cases of pneumonia were notified but three deaths were attributed to this disease.

Two notifications of scarlet fever were received, these were in no way connected and one case of sonné dysentery was notified in the first month. The source of infection in these cases could not be determined.

During the first quarter chickenpox was prevalent in children, and this was followed, in the second quarter, by a prevalence of mumps. Shingles (herpes zoster) also appeared during the year.

In February, influenza appeared in the Rural District, the infection being moderately severe, and in the middle of the year, infective hepatitis appeared in the younger sections of the population.

The year was one showing a prevalence of the common virus diseases.

I am glad to report that throughout the year the Rural District was free from diphtheria, enteric fevers and acute poliomyelitis. The efficiency of notification is good and I have to record my thanks to the medical practitioners for their co-operation.

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the year there were 85 cases of tuberculosis on the Register, 65 being in respect of respiratory disease. During the year 2 cases of respiratory disease were added; one being a new infection.

One case of respiratory disease and one of non-respiratory disease were taken off the Register during the year; both cases were regarded as having recovered

At the end of the year 85 cases (66 respiratory and 19 non-respiratory) remained on the register.

No death was attributed to tuberculosis during 1967 in the Rural District.

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